grand ball given by Mrs. Salton Soap, wife of a millenaire, and I said in the vexation of a woman's heart, "What shall I wear?" Mrs. Gregory Alrite, the onable lady who for the moment holds me under her protection, responded in this wise:

"My dear child, don't worry yourself. No one thinks of dressing at that place. Wear anything, if you go at all. Mrs. Salton Scap is only a retired shoe-

Remembering the proposed invasion of an entire millinery upon our Chief Magistrate at his own house, I could scarcely refrain from smiling, and begged my friend to explain.

There is no explanation about it. Mr. Salton Soap began life in a little shop somewhere, and it is said at first made the shoes he sold. After a while he sold shoes other people made, and then he married Mrs. S., who is a managing woman and extended the cus tom. I don't know the details of the shoe business, but the Scaps flourished. Some say he was part owner in a patent pegging machine, and by labeling his work with French names monopolized the market and realized a fortune. Now, my dear, a pegging machine may make a fortune, but it won't secure a good footing in society, if one has a huge house full of

I did not ask for a history of the successful merchant. It was the same of many others, I am proud to say, in this enterprising land of ours, and wee betide us when such incidents become rare. But an inconsistency struck me and was laboring for explanation. not only remembered that the White House was open to all-as I have stated-but I had been introduced a few evenings previous to the Member of Congress who represents my native district in New-England. Now the Hon. Lycurgus Brick is not considered good society at home, because his habits are of rather an unhappy character; indeed a respectable member of an established family would rather hesitate about a casual acquaintance; but here, if the burly Lyeurgus sad his influence from his political position, Salton Soap should have hers in right of ther upholstery. It struck me that one was as con entertaining as the other. But I did not pursue the

approfitable discussion.
You will observe, my dear S., in this two elements directly affecting society in Washington-one the political, the other the result of Slavery. The one recognizes labor-for labor goes to the polls, in shirt sleeves or ragged coats perhaps, but there it is creat ing politicians and politicians create Washington; and the other degrades labor, owns it, beats it, and o course can give it no place in the so-called society. By observing these facts you will be able to clear up some apparent inconsistencies in the heterogeneous mass of active life in and about the corporate limits our capital. You must excuse me for thus taking up so much of

my letter with such philosophizing; but it is a trick I have, for which you may scold as you will; but it seems as if I cannot come out of it. Now for the Levee. We drove in back No. 201, and

a very nice hack it is, to the Presidential mi The band was playing in the vilest manner the popular pir of "Bobbin' around"-at least such was our vague impression-and the clock told the hour of 81, as we rolled under the portico which protects the entrance. This early affair terminates at 10. The present occupants were strangers to me. I never saw President Pierce until this evening, but the house is an old ac quaintance. In this house many, many years ago, had taken my first glimpses of society. I had in the halls been looked at by Calhoun, spoken to by Web-ster and made much of by Clay. It seems but yesster, and made much of by Clay. terday when these statesmen were the dignified guests at the house where they should have been hosts; but each one has wended his way for the last time down the steps I was ascending—gone out to the land of shadows, to be forevermore but a cherished name of s great people. You see what a garrulous old lady 1 am getting to be. And I could tell you choice stories of those days—days when Martin Van Buren, that most dignified, gentlemanly statesman, tendered me wine at his own table-while giants were battling in the Senate and society was graced by the presence of -but no-not now; I must deal with the present.

We passed a sea of hats, through the ante-chamher adjoining the dining-room, into the dining-room itself-for the moment a retreat for ladies, shawls and overshoes. Passing the hall we entered the reception room where, a small man seizing us, we were presented to President Pierce. This was my first look at a gen tleman whose name fills so large a space in the political speculations of the day. Now, I am a woman and of course know very little about politics, and I may add, that it is getting to be so low a pursuit that I care less. So, my dear friend, you may take my opinion for what it is worth. In General Pierce I was agreeably disappointed. He is a gentleman, and unless I misread appearances, a large-hearted, generous man. Now I am well aware this will create quite aproar in our little household, and father, who would not let poor James complete his unique portrait gallery of the Presidents by bringing that of General Pierce into the house, and threw out divers and sundry hais that made us think for the moment he would forget his staid habits and punch something or some body, will, I have no doubt, disown me. Well, I abide by my assertion, and when history comes to clear away the rubbish of daily papers and windy speeches, thi hump-backed tyrant who murdered those babes in the woods, Kansas and Nebraska, will be found a fairproportioned gentleman. I say so, and relying upon my woman's instincts, assert, regardless of contradiction that General Pierce is a kind-hearted, generous, impulsive gentleman. Nothing could exceed the case and dignity with which he received our great crowd.

Another gentleman seized us-not a small one the time-and presented us to Mrs. Pierce. She, too, had a smile for us, but it was so mixed with weariness and serrow that I turned away pained. It brought up the past, real and palpable before me. Power had come almost unsought to those immates of the Presidential mansion, but, affliction came too. And to them these halls are desolate and dreary, and by their side all the while walks a shadow which says, " Vanity of vani-

" ties-all is vanity." So we passed on to the east room. How time, age, and experience work changes! In my girlish eyes this seemed once a vast hall, magnificently finished and fur nished, but, how it has dwindled! it is respectable, but no mere. And the crowd-what a heterogen-ous mass Men, women and children, (for half-grown girls and boys made up at least one-fourth,) represented all classes and all climes. The rude drover from Indiana jostled the New-York exquisite, and the dress from the re motest village, made up from fashion-plates, and fitted in paroxyisms, gave a striking back-ground to the most perfect Parisian toilette. So the crowd poured in, marching in stiff formal procession round the room The lady hung on to a biped's arm, clinging each to the other, as if the enemy were about, and, dissolution would be disorder and ruin. And here they camethe anxious office-seeker and hungry claimant, indolent clerks and active millionaires, stray birds of passage, from the merchant who has bought goods in Baltimore, to the Hebrew with a jewelry store on his person. I saw the bearded Californian walking by the slender representative from Maine; the many wived gentleman from Utah was hob and nob with hot gespeller from the West; the owner of plantation and n groes did the agreeable to the fair Puritans of the East; and I said, What a country is ours! The slender gentleman in the adjoining room was really the ruler over nations before whose possessions the empires of history dwindle into insignificance Stretching from Maine to the golden sands of the Pacific and embracing, not one people in fact, but many with wide conflicting interests, and different manners, customs, religious and languages, yet, so admirably and simply bound tegether, that the wide extent brings no weakness, but, in their very diversity,

wealth, health and strength. We had no very distinguished people present, and the somber dress of the men, with the simplicity of toilet exhibited by a majority of my sisters in attendance, made the assembly appear to the eye rather

solemn. One misses the gay uniform of a diplomatic corps, and the glitter of military foppery incident to such occasions at European courts. The diplomatic body at Washington is not a very imposing body. either as to dress, numbers, or intellect. The fact is we have no business of a diplomatic character, and no court to make such a pursuit agreeable. The gen tlemen of that body in Europe dread the United States. and one and all, from the lowest to the highest, consider the mission here a dismal banishment. I wish we could reciprocate, and as they hesitate about sending their accomplished diplomatists to Washington and idleness, we would refuse positively to send stump orators in return, whose lack of education make. their lack of employment a real blessing.

I must not pass in silence one remarkable man, wh rolled through the assembled crowd very like a bear, and the crowd fell away from him as if he were indee such. This was Gov. Marcy. I looked at him with much interest. He is a remarkable man, and carries the evidences in his appearance. The awkward and somewhat unwieldy person, the large head and shaggy eyebrows, give one at first an idea of sturdy obsticacy. But on a closer look we discover other traits, and ar puzzled by the strange mixture of courage and cunning -as if the heads of a bulldog and fox had been run together. To this add a twinkle of humor, and you have the outer man. I believe Gov. Marcy enjoyed himself. It is my firm belief that Gov. Marcy was en I am satisfied of this from looking back to the fact that he marched about the room for more than an hour. But had one consulted the Secretary's coun tenance at the time, the conclusion would have been irresistible that the honorable Secretary was boredconsidered it dismal, and would have been happier with the toothache. I am assured on all sides that, with hi admitted ability, Secretary Marcy is not the man for the State Department. With remarkable executive talent and a clear, vigorous style of writing, he yet lacks the grasp of intellect and knowledge of foreign affairs nece sary to a statesman; and at our State Department such qualities are necessary. He won for himself a wide re putation as Secretary of War, and has lost it all in his present position. With a high conservative bias, he has represented only the mercantile interests of New York, and acted as if his only duty was to keep out a collision. The Hon. Jeff. Davis and the Presiden blow war-horns and fire guns, while Gov. Marcy goe on negotiating. In the end President Pierce and the Hen. Secretary of War find themselves disposed of, and the world—vastly amused.
You see, my dear friend, how easily I am writing

about what I do not comprehend. But it is all the easier on that account. Like the Western magistrate I hear but one side, and so avoid much confusion But the reception came to an end, as must this dul letter. The band blew out their last discordant potes Governor Marcy went out-the crowd rolled outpicking up shawls, hoods and hats as best it might. Now let me remark: We give our President to much for the republican simplicity, and not enough to entertainment. We have a large, handsome house demanding like furniture, yet badly filled, and with ont a work of art on its walls. Between the endeavo to do something and the want of means, the unhappy incumbent generally leaves a bankrupt, unless, in deed, he arts as one of them once did. A friend informs me, that returning one evening after a recep tion, in search of a missing article, she found th President busily engaged turning off the gas and extinguishing the candles. She did not add that he put the ends in his pocket, but he was very imprudent no to have done so. Let the President pocket the candle ends, and thank Providence that he has something It is said that members of Congress carry home pocket knives and spitteons, and why should not the Presi dent have his candle ends? Adieu.

THE LATEST NEWS. RECEIVED BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Editorial Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Monday, March 3, 1856.

The Members of Congress who stand by Fre-Kansas, and are opposed to Fillmore for President are considering the policy of issuing a call for a People's Presidential Convention; probably to meet at Philadelphia simultaneously or substan-

tially so with the Republican Convention. The movement will be carefully considered, and no step taken without extensive preconcert and some deliberation. So far I have heard of no Member who supported Banks and now sustains Fillmore. Lewis D. Campbell of Ohio spoke at the City Ratification Meeting on Friday night, but was The Senate to-day heard speeches from Mr.

Crittenden for, and Mr. Pugh against, Mr. Turnbull's right to sit as Senator from Illinois. The subject was postponed. I still think Mr. Turnbull will not be unseated.

The House, in committee, debated the Deficiency Bill, and by a close vote struck out the item giving additional pay to the Governor of New-Mexico. The committee then reported the bill. The proviso recasting the Marine Hospital system was not directly acted on, but is very strongly objected to, and unless withdrawn may defeat the whole bill.

The Committee on Elections is understood to be prepared to report its reasons for asking power to send for persons and papers in Gov. Reeder's case. The report is expected to-morrow, including a statement from Gov. Reeder of what he expects to be proved. Mr. Stephens of Georgia will make the minority report, but perhaps not just yet.

OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

From Our Own Correspondent, WASHINGTON, Monday, March 3, 1856.

The Arago's mails brought nothing important concerning our difficulties with Great Britain. Mr. Buchanan is much exercised in his correspondence with his friends as to the statements of both Lord Clarendon and Lord Palmerston, representing that he expressed himself satisfied with the explanations of the former on the enlistment question in July last. He denies these representations indignantly, except with the qualification of Mr. Crampton's complicity. This development in Parlia ment grew out of Mr. Cobden's speech, which was predicated upon a publication of the Central American correpondence made in England under Mr. Buchanan's supervision and responsibility for the purpose of enlightening the British mind and correcting erroneous opinious.

It is understood in London that as soon as Mr. Crampton's explanations to Mr. Marcy's dispatch of the 28th December are received, Lord Clarendon will attempt to answer, and then the point of recall be definitively closed either by England or by the

Mr. Singleton, a Member of the last Congress from Mississippi, has declined the Consulate at

FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, Monday, March 3, 1816.
The Arago's mails brought no dispatches of parties r importance to the Government.

The report of the House Committee on Elections is

tract had previously been awarded by Mr. Forney, Mr. Cullom's predecessor, to the proprietor of The Evening Star, who had entered a bond for the faithful execution of the work.

XXXIVTH CONGRESS. FIRST SESSION.

SENATE WASHINGTON, March 3. Mr. CASS made a personal explanation in relation to an article in to-day's Intelligencer, signed "J. W. W.," which he attributed to James Watson Webb. W.," which he attributed to James Watson Webb.
It clates to a conversation between Mr. Webb and
Lord Clarendon, in which the latter stated that he had
no unfriendly feeling toward the United States. This
statement was explanatory of a remark made by
Clarendon in the House of Lords that the understanding between the English and French Governments was
perfect in relation to all parts of the world, which was
understood as a menace to this country regarding
Chba.

Mr. CASS asked if Lord Clarendon's language had been misunderstood, why did he not explain it in the House of Lords instead of leaving it to be explained in a private letter which few perhaps would see or hear of?

The bill authorizing the construction of ten sloops-

The bill authorizing the construction of ten sloopsof-war was taken up.

Mr. SEWARD referred to several periods of our
history—from the affair of the Caroline to the late dispute in regard to the fisheries—to show that the appearance of a single British vessel had frightened the
country into a fear of impending war. He said he was
tired of these things, and wished the people, especially
the merchants of our commercial cities, to discuss
questions of national interest without being atarmed
through fear of the inability of our Government to
maintain them in their property, rights and interests.
He would vote for this increase of the Navy irrespective of any question in regard to our foreign relations,
because he thought it wrong to leave our seaboard exposed, and because there never had been a time so posed, and because there never had been a time so propitious as the present, when, without any alteration

plus revenue, could do so.

Mr. HALE thought it absurd to undertake to put our Navy on a footing to compete with those of other countries. It reminded him of a legacy of ten pounds bequeathed by an Englishman to pay the national debt. If there was any apprehension of war, it originated in Congressional speeches. It was time to economize

Mr. BELL (Tenn.) said the bill was una recommended by the Naval Committee, and not found on any existing alarm on the subject of war. The bject was to supply a class of vessels necessary for

chiect was to supply a class of vessels necessary for the protection of commerce.

Mr. HUNTER believed that the matters of differ-ence between Great Britain and the United States were such as ought to be settled if common discretion is exercised. The passage of the bill should not create a war alarm. We increase the chances of peace by preparing for war, thus diminishing the opportunity for foreign powers to speculate on our weakness, real or supposed. or supposed.

The bill was passed. [The estimated cost of each

vessel is \$507,000, including equipment and steam machinery. Two million are now appropriated.] The Trumbull election case was considered. Mr. CRITTENDEN favored Mr. Trumbull's right

to the seat, stating that the Constitution of the United States defines the qualifications of Senator, and no State has authority to require any other qualifications. Mr. PUGH contended that the plain and obvious Mr. From contended that the plant and over the question. The State and a right to require any qualification it pleased so long as there was no conflict with the Constitution of the United States. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The Deficiency Appropriation bill was taken up and discussed and the House adjourned before the discus-sion was concluded.

THE REPORTS ABOUT THE PACIFIC.

St. John, N. B., March 3, 1856, The report circulated in New-York respecting a teamship (supposed to be the Pacific) alleged to have seen seen on the Banks of Newfoundland by a person who represented himself as the mate of the brig Bogert, arrived at this port on Wednesday last, must be entirely without foundation, as no such vessel has been heard of at this port.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, March 3, 1856. Over three hundred persons left this city last night o attend the Democratic State Convention which asembles at Harrisburg to-morrow. Warm work is anticipated between the friends of

Pierce and Buchanan, to secure the election of delegates to the National Convention.

THE VIEGINIA DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. THE VIRGINIA DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

BALTIMORE, Monday, March 3, 1856.

The Democratic Convention held at Richmond, Va., adjourned on Saturday last, after adopting a Platform. The Platform reaffirms State Rights; deprecates the granting of the public lands for internal improvements; opposes an increase of duty on imports; indorses the Baltimore Platform; recommends the Cincinnati Convention to nominate the candidate most likely to be elected; denounces the American party, and indorses the present Administration.

NEW-BEDFORD MUNICIPAL ELECTION. NEW BEDFORD, Monday, March 3, 1856, A very large vote was polled to-day at our Chatter Election. For Mayor, George Howland (American) esent incumbent, was elected, receiving against 1,342 for Rodney French. The ens" ticket for Aldermen was elected.

men are equally divided between the two parties. THE CHICAGO, ALTON AND ST. LOUIS

RAILROAD.

RAILROAD.

CHICAGO, Monday, March 3, 1856.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Chicago, Aton and St. Louis Railroad was held at Bloomington on the 2sth uit., and the lease of the road to Hamilton Spencer, esq., was confirmed by a majority of over 9,000 votes.

MARINE DISASTER.

MARINE DISASTER.
PORTLAND, Monday, March 3, 1856.
The bark David Nickles, Capt. Sweet, from Cardenas, was senk in our harbor this morning by floating ice from Presumpscot River. The crew were saved by the revenue cutter, but Captain Sweet was drowned.
Bostos, Monday, March 3, 1856.
The schr. Lonsdale, from Providence for Philadelphia, was sunk by ice near Nyat Point on Saturday night last. She had a valuable cargo of dry goods on board.

NAVIGATION OF THE OHIO. PHTSRURGH, Monday, March 3, 1856.
The river continues closed by ice from this point to
Pomeroy, below Wheeling. The weather is cold.

FIRE AT PORTLAND.

PORTLAND, (Mc.) Monday, March 3, 1856.

At midnight on Saturday a fire broke out in Middle street, near Market Square, destroying the stores occupied by Darms & White, brushmakers; O. H. Perry, confectioner, W. B. Richards, harnessmaker; and Wm. S. Russell, tobacconist.

SEVERE GALE AT SOUTH HARWICH. SOUTH HARWICH, (Mass.) Monday, March 3.
Yesterday morning, during a gale of wind from the south-east. Commercial Wharf was completely carried away by the ice, and a mackerel and salt store and a sail-ioft destroyed. Loss \$8,000.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE ALBANY, March 3. Mr. SPENCER presented a memorial from Moses
H. Grinnell, esq., and ten others, praying for the passage of laws restricting the powers of the Mutual Life
Insurance Company of New-York, and asking a Com-

Insurance Company of New-Fork, and asking a Committee of Inquiry into its management.

The memorial presented by Mr. Spencer, for inquiring into the affairs of the Mutual Life-Insurance Company of New-York, sets forth that the Company was authorized by law in 1842, without capital, upon the principle of mutual insurance by the contribution of premiums: that the high character of the first Trustees induced the memorialists to insure their lives in the Company: that the subsequent election of Trustees has not met their approval, and has excited their distrust; that the change was effected by means of proxies, has not met their approval, and has excited their dis-trust: that the change was effect of by means of proxies, obtained by an agent of the Co pany, to whom, it is said, a large sum of money was paid out of the trust funds: that since the change in the administration, the locus to Trustees have greatly increased. The me-morialists pray the passage of a law placing restric-tions upon the Company similar to those on savings banks, and declaring the seat of every Trustee in-debted to the Company vacated. It is also stated that the funds of the Company have been used in a manner not authorized by the charter; and the memorialists ask the appointment of a committee to examine into ask the appointment of a committee to examine into the manner in which the change of the Board was ef-fected, and into the general management of the Com-pany. The memorial is signed by Moses H. Grinnell The report of the House Committee on Elections is voluminous. Considering that the Special Commission to take testimony would incite hostilities, they adhere to the original propositions to send for persons and papers in the Receder case.

Mr. Cullom, Clerk of the House, has given the profitable job of binding the reserved documents of the House to John Treble, of this city—the same control of the Jews Hospital in New-York.

By Mr. BROOKS-Amending the act providing for the care of truant children.

By Mr. C. P. SMITH-For the relief of the St. Law-

By Mr. Z. CLARK-For the payment of certain By Mr. Z. CLARK-I'd water use in the Sing Sing Prison.

By Mr. SPENCER, with an amendment, the bill to regulate the compensation of the Assessors in the Street Department of New-York. The amendment \$2.500 per annum instead of a

By Mr. RICHARDSON-To authorize the estab-

lishment of two State Lunatic Asylums, and against the special bill to locate one in one of the counties on the Hudson River.

A bill was introduced by Mr. WADSWORTH for the relief of the Buffalo Hospital.

Under the general order, the bill to prevent illegal voting in New-York City was discussed, and progress reported.

Mr. SWEET introduced a bill to compel all railroad ompenies to construct telegraph lines on their roads with stations not more than fifteen miles apart; als

to onge loccombives to blow a whishe at crossings under a penalty of twenty dollars.

Progress was reported, after debate, on Mr. Upham's bill abolishing the office of Superintendent of Canals, and also on the bill incorporating Homeopathic Med-cal Societies. Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

By Mr. WELLS, to require Supervisors to publish journal of their proceedings and distribute the same. By Mr. WILLIAMS, to appropriate \$11,000 to the merican Female Guardian Society.

By Mr. JENKINS—Authorizing the continuance of he business of banking by the heirs of deceased

bankers.
By Mr. FOOT-To preserve the purity of the ballot.

box is Brooklyn.

Also, from the majority of the Committee, to confirm the acts of the Commissioners for locating Schuy ler County. Another report from the minority of the

Committee was presented against the same.

By Mr. WOOD—To extend the charter of the North-western Insurance Company. Another to enable the Courts of Kings County to elect a Clerk. Another (a written report and by bill) in relation to the codification of existing laws.

Relating to the Quarantine Buildings and Marine Hospital.

Hospital, By Mr. E. T. WOOD-To make an appropriation or a monument to the Wallabout Martyrs.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. HUXTON—To abolish the Normal School.

By Mr. MATTICE—To authorize the Secretary of State to fid up broken sets of the Natural History of New-York as far as possible. By Mr. DUGANNE—To protect the people of

New-York as lar as possible.

By Mr. DUGANNE—To protect the people of New-York against fraud in making change, by regulating the use of non-legal tenders. The bill is designed to cut off the half cent profits of Dutch grocers and other small dealers, by compelling them to give 25 cents for all foreign quarter dollars, and 12½ cents for all York shillings, under a penalty of \$10.

Mr. DUGANNE'S bill, to make the legal specie currency of the State conform to the Federal regulations concerning a legal tender, forbids the circulation of Spanish or Mexican quarters or New-York shillings, unless taken at the value of 25c, and 12½c, respectively, and requires persons paying money and making change to represent those coins as of the full value stated, under a penalty of \$10 for each offense.

By Mr. GLOVER—To oblige the N. Y. & N. H. Raifroad Co. to lay a double track.

By Mr. MAHEN—To form the Jones's Wood Park, New York.

York. Mr. VAN SANTVOORD-To authorize the

ormation of Town Mutual Insurance Companies. By Mr. STRANG-To preserve the fish in the Cro-

ton River.

By Mr. MAHEN—To abolish Pawn Broker's Shops in New-York. MOTIONS. By Mr. DUGANNE—Authorizing the Committee to which was referred the New-York Tax bill to send

to which was referred the New-107K lax bill to scale
for persons and papers. Adopted.

By Mr. ALGUK—That the Canal Board furnish a
tabular statement of the expense of Enlarging the
Canals. Adopted.

By Mr. SHEA, requiring the Health Officer of New
York to report under oath the amount of fees and
patronage received by him. Adopted.

Mr. KEED called up the resolution of inquiry into

Mr. REED called up the resolution of inquiry into the mode of crecting tenant buildings in New-York, and the same was adopted.

Several bills were then discussed under general orders, and the House adjourned.

FROM HAVANA.

The United States mail steamer Black Warrior, J. W. Smith commander, from New-Orleans the 24th and Havana the 29th, arrived last pight,

From Havana we have no political news of import ance. The town is very dull, the Captain General being away on a tour of inspection of the military and civil departments of the Government throughout the

No change in the sugar market. On hand, 62,000 boxes.

A detachment of the British fleet are expected in Havana, and every one is on the qui vive to welcome them. The Terrible, the Daring, Available and Powerful are already there, and are exchanging salutes with the Spanish war versels in the harbor. Rumor says that the destination of the English squadron is Nicarsgua, to visit Col. Walker.

Among her passengers the Black Warrior brings Lieut, R. Werden, U. S. N., commander of the bark On the 1st and 2d inst, the Black Warrior expe rienced a heavy gale from the south-east to the northwest. On the 3d, at 2] p. m., lat 37 20, lon. 74 40, passed the United States war steamer Merrimac, steer-

A CIRCULAR.

or south-west.

To the Democratic Electors of the State of New-York: Fellow-Citizess: A regard to the principles and respect for the usages of the Democratic party, call fer some immediate consultation on the part of the masses, in view of the action taken in State Convention by the organization claiming to represent the

party.

Acts, amounting to grave offenses against both prin-Acts, amounting to grave orderses against some per-ciple and precedent, have continued to accumulate, until, in the proceedings of the late Syracuse Conven-tion (for an object scarcely dissembled), they leave little to hope for, in the way of union and success, un-less repudiated and remedied by those who have no immediate personal interest to subserve, but look only to the permanent welfare of the country through the

to the permanent welfare of the country through the secendancy of Democratic principles.

The policy of our Southern confederates with respect to Slavery has essentially changed within a few years, so that from a local evil, for which they claimed toleration and sympathy, they have assumed to treat it as an institution entitled to unlimited territorial extension, and special national protection and encouragement, as well as almost exclusive recognition and indorsement in the platform of the party.

By a perversion of the influence of official patronage and a discrepard of the time-honored usages of the

and a cisregard of the time-honored usages of the party, the true and reliable Democracy of the State are not represented in the delegations or construction of the platform of the Convention. Yet this might be plerated had there not been superadded a direct and vanton abandondent of the cherished principles of the

The harmony and success of the Democratic party are not only hazarded by the positions thus assumed but, worse than division and defeat, the sovereignty of the States and the rights of citizens are imperiled

but, worse than division and defect, the sovereignty
of the States and the rights of citizens are imperiled
by the abuse of delegated authority.

The remedy for existing and impending evils is in
the hands of a Democratic people. It has heretofore
been the privilege of the true Democracy of New
York to exert an effective influence in the pure ad
ministration of government, by repelling the aggressions of power, by recalling and reviving the instructions of history, and by adherence to the practices of
such men of the nation as Jefferson and Juckson, and
such men of the State as Tompkins and Wright.

That they may resume their rightful position, and
obey the behests as well as emulate the example of the
illustricus founders and examplars of our political faith
—review the past, deliberate upon the present, and anticipate and prepare for the future—would seem to call
for a consultation of the Democracy of the State. It
is, therefore, recommended that a Representative Convention of one or more members of the Democratic
party, from each Assembly district, be held at the City
of Syraruse on the 25th day of March, 1856; and that
the masses take the necessary steps for a full and faithful representation in such Convention. Dated February 5, 1856.

At a necting of Democrate, Albany, Jan. 25, the above call

At a meeting of Democrats, Albany, Jan. 25, the above call was adopted, and it was resolved to appoint a central committee of twenty and a State committee of forty, as follows: CENTRAL CONSULTING COMMITTEE John B. James, Dudley Bussell, Alexander F. Wheeler, Paul F. Cooper, Ira Porter, C. B. Cochrane, Allany, Martin I. Townsend, Jino A. Millard, Moses Warren, Wim Ressell, Riley Loomis, Those Carnoli, Rensselear; Jino T. Hozeboon, Theodore Miller, S. P. Dorz, Columbia; Anthony Van Bergen, Albano Greene, Isase Fwyn, Greene; Plast Potter, Robert K. Cunningham, Schenecady.

Sylary Committee Committee James S. Wadsworth, Arphanel Loomis, Ward Hunt, E. G. Lapham, Bishop Perkins, A. N. Vin Alstyne, James C. Smith, Eli Cook, Eli W. Rodgers,

M. R. Champlain, Noyes P. Gregory, James C. Curtis, James S. Whallon, Lewis Chatfield, H. G. Root, Thomas G. Alvord, Geo. Rathbur, Ariel S. Thurston, J. M. Dadley, Thos Y. Hew, R. Albert Loster, Clark S. Grinnall, Wm. P. Angell, John G. Floyd, Robert Denniston, Thomas J. Noyes, Robert Campbell, Lake I. Teff, John McLean, Flatt Potter, John B. James, Berj. Weich, Jr., Sjäney Lawrence, John Snyder, Notes Leuned, Thea B. Campbell, Saxton Smith, George T. Pierce, Thomas B. Carroll.

LAURA REENE'S VARIETIES.

In one of the cold, silent streets which run off Cov-

ent Garden, London, there is a plain, quaint old ale-house, celebrated for its fine home-brewed and Welsh rabbit. At times some stout veoman or cabman round table or standing at the counter taking in good English cheer. But, as a rule, the place has a lonely, in frequented look. Yet is it a place of infinite wit and merriment, for within this old alchouse is a room in which, at hours "when church-yards yawn," may be found gathered the gavest and pleasantest spirits within London town. The chamber in which the knights of "the Fielding Club," for so it is called, hold their tournaments of wit and jousts of fun, is a plain one, bearing as its solitary ornament a huge Eastern curtain of gorgeous drapery, which overhangs a bow window looking on the street. But it needs no adornments. Its wit is its luster. It is essentially democratic, this Fielding Club, the qualification for entrance being of divine gift, not human creation. The stamp of genius is th only coin recognized by the angel who guards the Fielding door. There may have been found on Winter nights, when the theater and opera had sent forth their crowds, Thackeray, Billy Russell, The Times's Crimean correspondent, the kindest and most genial of men; Albert Smith, Angus Reach, Mark Leman, and Douglass Jerrold of Panch, Jullien, Keeley, the actor; Keogh, the Irish Attorney-General; Edwin James, Sergeant Wilkins, and troops of gay young Guardsmen. The Alma and Inkermann have made vacant many a chair from which the merry jest was passed, or a caricature for the next Punch concocted. But there are many of the old spirits still lingering round the spot, and among these are Tom Taylor and Charles Reade, the twin parents of "Two Loves and a Life," which the gentle directress of "The Varicties" recreated here last night.

Taylor and Reade may well be classed as the Beaument and Fletcher of the present time, and we doubt not in future days the house in which they made most pleasant home and the genial club which they frequented will be pointed to with emotion by those lovers of the stage who come when we are gone They are doubtless the best comedians of the day. Their productions flow from a pure, fresh spring; not an unhealthy resevoir; and there is a sweet, wild goodness and a kind of gentle melancholy hanging round some of their characters, as Peg Woffington and Ruth, which will build for them an enduring home in the world's heart.

"Two Loves and a Life" is not equal, as an acting play, to "Still Waters run Deep," which has proved so rich in attraction both in this country and England; but the diction is beautiful, the situations good, and two of the characters, Badeliffe the Jesuit and Ruth, are drawn in bold color and greatness of outline. The play is placed in that closing period of the romance of Scotch history, when the Highland clans, with loyal devotion to a house, made chiefly noble by the heroic love and self-sacrifice of these gallant mountaineers, gathered for the last time round the standard of the Stuarts and poured down with the claymere from their bills to do battle for "bonnie Prince Charlie." The first act opens at a seaport town on the north-west coast of England, near the borders, with Morecombe Bay and Leven Sands in the distance, where we are streduced to Radeliffe, a Jesuit, and Sir Gervase Rekewood, two Jacobites, one in the disguise of a Quaker and the other of a fisherman, under the name

of Fisher and Master Hyde.

They are surrounded by the usual village accessor ries-a schoolmaster, barber and postmaster; the last of whom possesses a curious appetite, which has descended even to our own day, of prying into letters that pass through his post, and occasionally—before the distinguished example of Mr. Crampton—not de-livering them until some time after date. While all these various characters are awaiting the arrival of the usual evening post, a young peasant girl, of bold, bright bearing, Ruth Ravenscar, who carries the bags Across the sands, appears, and quickly after her mes sengers with the news that the Duke of Cumberland with his Culloden dragoons was fast bearing down to meet the rebel forces. Suddenly he is seen attempting cross the Leven Sands; but a mist surrounds him. and his destruction is inevitable unless some one on shore consents to risk his life in the effort to procure the Royal Prince's safety. Rokewood, with gallant generosity, offers, but Ruth forbids; and, boldly venturing across the Sands, brings back the Duke and party in safety. As a reward, the Duke gives to Ruth a ring, which proves afterward the talisman to the life of Rokewood. He then posts on the village cross an offer of reward of one thousand pounds to the man who would arrest the rebel traitors Radeliffe and Sir Gervase Rokewood.

The postmaster, eager to gain this prize, resorts to his old habit of opening at night the letters in his post, and compels his daughter—a gentle, weak girl, the betrothed of Rokewood—to be his instrument. In a letter directed to Radeliffe, from a Jacobin Lancastrian squire of the even to this day Catholic name of Towneley, he deciphers the hour and place of meeting, and rushes to give information. He is, however, forestalled by Anne, his daughter, who rescues Rokewood, and by Ruth, who really encounters the danger, and risks her life to save him, though Anne appears as his deliverer. Rokewood is, however, and afterward concealed in Anne Musgrave's chamber, and is only rescued from the scaffold, to which he has been condemned, by the intercession and presentation to the Duke by Ruth of the ring he had, in the hour of his deliverance by her brave hand, given her. She, however, but rescues her lover to find him wedded to her rival Anne by her own father -for such Radeliffe is found to be, who, like many of the Roman Catholic clergy, had entered the priesthood to conceal an early sin and sorrow, and recognixes in a cross Ruth wears on her bosom the child of that sin and sorrow. The piece wears throughout the perfume of one of Scott's best stories, and nearly all the characters appear to have leaped from the canvas of the novels which tell of that period-Waverley and Reb Roy. At the denouement, too, we feel the same sorrow in seeing Rokewood marry the insipid Anne in-stead of Ruth, as in seeing Waverley marry Rose Bradwardine instead of Flora McIvor, or Ivanhoe wed Rowens instead of Rebecca.

The feeling was hightened, too, by Miss Keene's most beautiful personation of Ruth. Alone she may be said to have carried the play triumphantly through. From first to last she entered thoroughly into the spirit of the character, and represented at different times to perfection the daring lover, the soft girl and the revengeful woman, as the varying lights and shades of a character most difficult of personation required. Her playing this piece has impressed us perhaps more than any other with a conviction of her versatility and her possession of that rare power of being able to grasp and develop characters of a most opposite mould. She can be at once Beatrice and Mrs. Steinhold, Rosalind and Ruth. To us who had studied with much care the play, the rendering of some portions of the part was an exquisite delight. Mr. Jordan as Rokewood played with the open, manly frankness, which became the character. Of Mr. Hall's personation of Radeliffe, the best part in the play, we are sorry to be obliged to speak in unmeasured condemnation. It was something worse than bad. He made of the Jesuit, who had built a wall of iron round his heart and was steered on every move by his caim, cunning brain alone, an effete old beadle, half rogue and half fool.

The piece was hung on with deep interest by a most erowded audience, and we fancy will catch the public favor. Its intrinsic merit and the admirable acting of Miss Keene deserve the recognition of every refined lover of the drama. We wish to its sail a full, fair

EDWARD EVERETT ON WASHINGTON Edward Everett repeated his oration on George Washington in the Academy of Music before the Mercantile Library Association last evening. All the sents, with the exception of a few in the amphitheater, were occupied, and the stage and aisles in the lower

loud applause on entering, and his oration, which was

very leng, was continually interrupted by cheers. We

have room only for the following very brief abstract:

have room only for the following very brief abstract:

Mr. Everett passed to the inquiry in what the true greatness of Washington consists, and admitted that he found it difficult to furnish an answer to the question, which fully satisfied his own conceptions. After all the usual points of a great character were enumerated, there was still something in Washington that excaped analysis, as there was an indescribable charm in his portraits by Stuart, imparting an interest to them, but which it was not easy to refer to its precise source. There could, however, be no doubt that the essence and strength of Washington's character lay in two things. First: In his possession, in a dusproportion each in the golden mean, of all the powers and qualities required for the useful and honorable discharge of the duties of life; and, second, in the pure morality which lay at the foundation. In reference to the first point, the speaker maintained that the absence of dazzling traits which strike the in agination, so far from needing an apology, was in reality one of the chief excellencies of the character of Washington. They are in reality defects, and would impair the heauty of a well-balanced character. Such reality one of the chief excellencies of the character of Washington. They are in reality defects, and would impair the beauty of a well-balanced character. Such a character also includes the sober and little popular qualities—such as prudence, justice, common sense-which, although by far the most useful qualities in a public man, neither win applause nor strike the imagination. They place their possessor, however, in harmony with the great powers which govern the universe, material and moral—which, the higher we rise in the scale of being, are the more characterized by quiet equilibrium and silent energy. But the pure morality of Washington's character was the most important feature, and Mr. Everett declared it to be his decided conviction, "that it was an import—and part of the design of Providence, in raising up Washington to be the leader of the revolutionary struggle, and afterward the first President of the United States, to set before the people of America, in the morning of their national existence, a living example to prove that armies may be best coaducted, just wars most successfully fought, and governments most ably and honorably administered by men of sound moral principle; to teach to gifted and aspiring individuals, and the parties they lead, that, though a hundred crooked paths may conduct to temporary success, the one plain and straight path of public and private virtue can alone lead to a pure and leating fame and the blessings of posterity." In drawing his address to a close, Mr. Everett quoted the language of Hamilton in his general orders communicating the tidings of Washington's decease to the army in 1799, that "the voice of praise would in vain endeavor to exalt a name unrivaled in the lists of "true glory;" and he spoke of the privilege enjoyed by America, in the first generation of her national existence, of being permitted, in exchange for the bright examples she had inherited from other countries and spee, to give back a name by acknowledgement brighter than all. He quoted the remark

MAMMOTH TUSK IN MEXICO -The San Antonio Zeitung of the 9th ult., contains a communication from Mr. Weidner to the Governor of the Mexican States of Nuevo Leon and Coahuila giving an account of the discovery by him, on the 15th of December, at the River Durazzo, not far from the City of Parras, of an extraordinary fossil tusk. It is eighteen feet long, and three feet in circumference at the root. The curvature of the tooth indicates a radius of nine feet at the larger end and two feet at the point. The ivory is much weather-worn; only the mineral portions remain. The exterior of the tooth is clear yellow, while the interior is white. The formation i tusk, together with molar teeth and other bones of various animals, was found, is cretaceous and consists of deposits of sand, breccia, fresh-water muscles, iron ore, peat and petrified wood in alternate layers, and scattered about very promiscuously. At the foot of the mountain is an ancient beach, indicating that the the mountain is an ancient beach, indicating that the valley was a lake, and that the enormous animal who sported a tun of tusks browsed in its shallows on the vast cryptogamia which formed the peat-beds. Mr. Weidner supposes the animal to whom this tusk belorged to have been something like an elephant, and estimates that he must have been 120 feet long-larger than any fossil animal heretofore known. He proposes the name of Duraznotherium-bobadillense.

PUBLICITY.-We feel no small degree of satisfaction n receiving letters nearly every day, comme THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE as an advertising medium especially when they come from those who publish long notices for which they pay the very high rates charged for insertions in that paper. Witness the fol-

"Nos. 17 and 19 Minor street, Philadelphia."

"Inclosed please find advertisement for WEERLT
TAISUNE of this week. My advertisement in last month's lesses, coating me \$47.50, dd more, I think, than three times the amount spent in other advertising channels.

"Respectfully, "ROBERT PEARSALL SMITH."

"Respectfully, "ROBERT PEARSALL SMITH."

THE MACKENIE TESTIMONIAL.—The British people have never been ungrateful to their public men. They have always appreciated merit, and, when called upon, responded most enthusiastically to any appeals made in behalf of those who have rendered services to the State. This is right. The man who sacrifices ease, domestic consort and affluence, to promote the interests of the nation, and to better the social and pecuniary cendition of the masses of society, is justly entitled to the gratitude of his countrymen. We are glad that a move has been made in this city to get up a testimonial to William Lyon Mackenzie for the survices which he has rendered to the people of Canadaduring the last thirty years. It is intended by the gentlemen taking the lead in the matter to make the project a Provincial one. The Reformers of '37 and all who appreciate the blessings of responsible government, which was extorted from the iron grasp of family compact tyranny after years of battling, will and odo the people. The grievances which aroused Canada to rebelbon in 1837 have been referessed. To whom is the country indebted for this? The old veteran who was mobbed with rotten eggs and ciubs at Brampton, last summer, deserves a goodly portion of the boost.

We may state that the Mackenzie testimonial is to be of a more tangible character than a silver service, such trickets might be a suitable presentation to men who drive the iron of oppression into the poor man's scul, but not to the fearless advocates of the people's rights. The contemplated testimonial is to consist of a good homestead, which will make the old man and his interesting family comfortable and independent for life. The testimonial is to have no reference whatever to the present political course or position of Mr. Mackenzie, but to his past services.

independent for life. The testimonial is to have no reference whatever to the present political course or position of Mr. Mackenzie, but to his past services. We hope that all our cotemporaries favorable to the object will lay the matter before their readers and interest themselves in giving it effect.

[Hamilton (C. W.) Morning Banner,

FELL OVERBOARD.—A man named William Teasel accidentally fell into the water while attempting to get of one of the Fulton Ferry boats on Sunday night, I cheeved by the ferry hands, who succeeded in drawing h